

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the Office Action mailed March 19, 2008. The status of the application is as follows:

- Claims 1-20 are pending, claims 1-8 have been amended, and claims 9-20 have been newly added;
- Claims 5-8 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), claims 5-8 have been amended;
- Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, claims 1-4 have been amended;
- Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen (US 5,778,880); and
- Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen.

The objections and rejections are discussed below.

The Objection to Claims 5-8 under 37 CFR 1.75(c)

The Office objected to claims 5-8 under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend on another multiple dependent claim. In response, the dependencies of claims 5-8 have been amended so as to not depend from another multiple dependent claim. Particularly, claims 5-8 have been amended to depend from independent claim 1, rendering the foregoing objection moot. Entry and allowance of claims 5-8 is respectfully requested.

The Rejection of Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Office contends that the carrier element is inferentially included, rendering it unclear whether this is actually part of the claimed invention. In response, claims 1-4 have been amended to positively recite the carrier element. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4 are allowable, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

The Rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen. Independent claim 1 is directed to a wearable system for enabling a bioelectrical interaction with an individual when being brought into contact with the individual's skin. The system comprises an electronic device arranged to be mounted on a carrier, the electronic device comprising electrodes arranged to carry out the interaction, wherein the electrodes are suitably shaped to enable a fixation of the electrodes on the carrier, the carrier being provided with receiving portions arranged to accommodate the electrodes. The Office contends that Chen discloses these claim aspects. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that at least a portion of each electrode extends through the carrier for facilitating the fixation of the electrodes on the carrier. This claim aspect is not taught or suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is allowable, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from independent claim 1 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on an allowable base claim.

The Rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen. Claim 4 depends from independent claim and is allowable at least by virtue of its dependency.

New Claims 9-20

Newly added claims 9-20 emphasize various aspects. No new matter has been added. The aspects in these claims are absent from the art of record relied upon by the Office. Entry and allowance of claims 9-20 is respectfully requested.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims distinguish patentably and non-obviously over the prior art of record. An early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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